

F BOARD of INVESTMENT and FINANCE - TRUSTEES

F1 Responsibility of the Trustees

The Board of Investment and Finance (BOIF) is constituted by the Presbyterian Church of Tasmania Act (1908) and members are appointed by the General Assembly of Tasmania. The BOIF consists of ten members who are the Trustees of the Property of the Presbyterian Church of Tasmania.

The Assembly Clerk is an ex-officio member of BOIF but is not a Trustee unless separately appointed.

The Trustees are the body corporate of the Presbyterian Church of Tasmania and all real property of the Church is vested in the Trustees.

The Tasmanian Code states:

Subject to Code and any direction of the Assembly the Board shall:-

- (a) Approve or disapprove any purchase, lease, sale or mortgage of Real Property by or on behalf of any congregation, committee or other organisation of the church;
- (b) regulate and superintend the investment of all property held for the purpose of the Church (excluding property held for the purposes of individual congregations);
- (c) regulate and superintend the budgeted expenditure of the church's funds, (Presbyterian Extension Fund);
- (d) report or act on any matter in which it is empowered by the General Assembly; and
- (e) report annually on its business to the Assembly.

F2 Loans to Congregations

The Assembly has authorised the Trustees to provide modest loans to congregations to assist them with the provision of a car for the Minister. Interest rates are usually set to approximate the 3 month term deposit rate, rather than the commercial loan rate.

Any submission for a loan should state the purpose, amount required, and give evidence of the capacity of the Congregation to repay the loan.

Any enquires should be directed to the Secretary of the Trustees.

F3 Funds Managed by Congregations

The Board of Management of each congregation is charged with the responsibility of the management of the normal finance of the Charge.

The proceeds of bequests / trusts, or the sale of property, are normally managed by the Trustees on behalf of the relevant congregation where appropriate. The centralised management of funds has the advantage that the larger sums available allow higher interests rates to be achieved.

Interest is available on request for appropriate disposal, and the Capital may be made available, subject to any special conditions of a will, Trust deed or Assembly decision. Capital will not normally be made available to meet recurrent expenditure.

Congregations with a surplus of funds are encouraged to use the investment facilities offered by the Trustees to achieve a higher return. The Trustees are willing to provide regular periodic payment of interest (e.g. for Manse Benefit payments or Travel Benefits payments) to the congregation from such invested funds.

In 1994 the Assembly passed the following clauses to appoint local congregations to manage the finances from the sale of congregational land:-

* **Appoint** the Board of Management of St. Andrew's, Launceston, as trustees for the management and investment of personalty resultant from the sale of the Launceston Glebe, St. Andrew's Manse (the capital to be maintained) and Scots Invermay Church for the general purposes of St. Andrew's Congregation. The Board of Management shall report annually to BOIF on the method and conditions of investment, the application of interest from these investments and the value of the fund at the end of the financial year. An audited financial statement shall be deemed to provide a sufficient report.

* **Appoint** the Board of Management of St. Andrew's, Ulverstone; St. Columbas's, Devonport and St. John's, Hobart as trustees for the management and investment of personalty resultant from the sale of the Manses of the respective Charges for the purpose of either paying a manse benefit to a Minister of the Charge, or the purchase of another Manse or to lend to a Minister of a Charge for the purpose of financing his purchase of a home. The Capital of the Fund shall be maintained.

* **Direct** that conditions of a loan to a minister shall be submitted to BOIF prior to the issue of a loan. A mortgage in the name of the Trustees of the Property of the Presbyterian Church of Tasmania shall be drawn by the Law Agent and executed by the Trustees as security of a loan to the Minister. The Board of Management shall report annually to BOIF on the method and conditions of the investment, the application of the interest from the investment and the value of the Fund at the end of the Financial Year.

Any enquires should be directed to the Secretary of the Trustees.